

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1-69. (Cancelled)

70. (New) A method for receiving information content from an information distribution system, wherein the information content is divided into a plurality of portions, the method comprising:

prompting for subscription to either a first multicast group that receives a first portion of the entire information content or a second multicast group that receives a second portion of the entire information content;

receiving a selection to subscribe to either the first multicast group or the second multicast group;

providing either the first portion of the entire information content or the second portion of the entire information content depending on the selection;

prompting for subscription to a third multicast group wherein the third multicast group receives a third portion of the entire information content and wherein the prompting for subscription to the third multicast group occurs after the selection to subscribe to the second multicast group and substantially near the end of the second portion of the entire information content.

71. (New) The method of claim 70 wherein a length of the third portion of the entire information content is substantially equal to a length of the entire program content minus a length of the second portion of the entire information content.

72. (New) The method of claim 70 further comprising:

prompting for subscription to a fourth multicast group wherein the fourth multicast group receives a fourth portion of the entire information content wherein the prompting for subscription to the fourth multicast group occurs after the selection of the second multicast group and substantially near the end of the second portion of the entire information content.

73. (New) The method of claim 70 wherein a total number of multicast groups is defined by $\sum (N-k)$ where N represents a number of portions the entire information content can be divided into and k goes from 0 to N.

74. (New) The method of claim 70 wherein a total number of multicast groups is defined by $2N-1$ where N represents a number of portions the entire information content can be divided into.

75. (New) The method of claim 70 wherein a total number of multicast groups is defined by $N+1$ where N represents a number of portions the entire information content can be divided into.

76. (New) An apparatus for receiving information content from an information distribution system, wherein the information content is divided into a plurality of portions, the apparatus comprising:

a transceiver coupled to the information distribution system;

a processor coupled to the transceiver wherein the processor operates by following instructions such that the processor;

prompts for subscription to either a first multicast group that receives a first portion of the entire information content or a second multicast group that receives a second portion of the entire information content;

receives a selection to subscribe to either the first multicast group or the second multicast group;

provides either the first portion of the entire information content or the second portion of the entire information content depending on the selection; and

prompts for subscription to a third multicast group wherein the third multicast group receives a third portion of the entire information content and wherein the prompting for subscription to the third multicast group occurs after the selection to subscribe to the second multicast group and substantially near the end of the second portion of the entire information content.

77. (New) The apparatus of claim 76 wherein a length of the third portion of the entire information content is substantially equal to a length of the entire program content minus a length of the second portion of the entire information content.

78. (New) The apparatus of claim 76 wherein the processor operates by following further instructions such that the processor:

prompt for subscription to a fourth multicast group wherein the fourth multicast group receives a fourth portion of the entire information content wherein the prompting for subscription to the forth multicast group occurs after the selection of the second multicast group and substantially near the end of the second portion of the entire information content.

79. (New) The apparatus of claim 76 wherein a total number of multicast groups is defined by $\sum (N-k)$ where N represents a number of portions the entire information content can be divided into and k goes from 0 to N.

80. (New) The apparatus of claim 76 wherein a total number of multicast groups is defined by $2N-1$ where N represents a number of portions the entire information content can be divided into.

81. (New) The apparatus of claim 76 wherein a total number of multicast groups is defined by $N+1$ where N represents a number of portions the entire information content can be divided into.

82. (New) A computer-readable media for directing a computer to receive information content from an information distribution system, wherein the information content is

divided into a plurality of portions, the computer-readable media comprising instructions that control the computer to:

prompt for subscription to either a first multicast group that receives a first portion of the entire information content or a second multicast group that receives a second portion of the entire information content;

receive a selection to subscribe to either the first multicast group or the second multicast group;

provide either the first portion of the entire information content or the second portion of the entire information content depending on the selection; and

prompt for subscription to a third multicast group wherein the third multicast group receives a third portion of the entire information content and wherein the prompting for subscription to the third multicast group occurs after the selection to subscribe to the second multicast group and substantially near the end of the second portion of the entire information content.

83. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 82 wherein a length of the third portion of the entire information content is substantially equal to a length of the entire program content minus a length of the second portion of the entire information content.

84. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 82 further comprising instructions that further control the computer to:

prompt for subscription to a fourth multicast group wherein the fourth multicast group receives a fourth portion of the entire information content wherein the prompting

for subscription to the forth multicast group occurs after the selection of the second multicast group and substantially near the end of the second portion of the entire information content.

85. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 82 wherein a total number of multicast groups is defined by $\sum (N-k)$ where N represents a number of portions the entire information content can be divided into and k goes from 0 to N.

86. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 82 wherein a total number of multicast groups is defined by $2^N - 1$ where N represents a number of portions the entire information content can be divided into.

87. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 82 wherein a total number of multicast groups is defined by $N+1$ where N represents a number of portions the entire information content can be divided into.